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SOUTH AFRICAN YOUTH COUNCIL – WESTERN CAPE

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Pat Jayiya

Dear Madam

The SAYC is a national civil society youth formation with provincial structures across the nine provinces in the country. It was established in 1997 to represent a united youth voice with the mandate to coordinate and mobilize youth organizations across political, cultural, religious backgrounds. SAYC in the province is currently having more than 100 youth organizations as member affiliates to the organization.

We recently hosted a Provincial Youth Policy Review Summit partnership with the Western Cape Youth Commission; it to discuss policies that have been established to address youth development in our country. This included in the main the strategic interventions that our government has put in place to respond to youth challenges among other youth unemployment.

Attached in the copy of the resolutions of this Summit, wherein 200 delegates participated from across the Western Cape from various youth formations, political, religious, issue-based, to local youth groups.

This we view as critical as our submission to the Public Hearing on Youth unemployment. We would also appreciate if we can be allowed a space to attend the Hearings to physically present and interact on this important subject that is dear to us as the youth.

For any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the above-mentioned numbers.

Yours in Youth Employment

NOMI NKONDLO
PROVINCIAL SECRETARY

**The Youth
of the
Western Cape Province
gathered in this historic Youth
Policy Review Summit
hereby adopts the following
resolutions.**

Fountain Hotel, Cape Town

12 – 14 May 2006

1. Resolution on an Integrated Youth Development Strategy

Noting

The content of the presentation on the review of youth development in South Africa over the past ten years

Further noting

The extensive development needs of young people of this country
The historic inequalities in this country many of which still persist till today
The challenges confronting young people in their daily lives
The fragmentation in government service delivery to youth

Resolve

That the Western Cape Policy Review Summit supports the notion of and imperative for an integrated Youth Development strategy to ensure greater accountability for youth programmes and uniformity across all three spheres of government for sustainable youth development

2. Resolution on education, skills development and economic growth

Noting

Black youth and African youth in particular are most affected by unemployment
Lack of skills in general and lack of industry relevant skills in particular amongst youth of the country
Lack of exit strategies for learnerships and internships
The high cost of tertiary education
The abuse of students and unemployed graduates by companies as an alternative to fulltime employment
Lack of understanding on JIPSA and ASGISA by youth

Further nothing

The agreements of the Provincial Growth and Development Summit
The major investment by government in Further Education and Training
Government response to skills shortage through initiatives such as JIPSA
Work of the NSFAS to provide access to higher education for especially previously disadvantaged youth

Further noting

The existence of a number of institutions in the Western Cape with the responsibility to drive economic and social development

Resolve

The Western Cape Youth Commission should build stronger working relationship with Provincial Development Council and Wesgro
Lobby business and higher education to co-operate closely in developing industry relevant skills
Engage partners on issues of free education
Lobby partners to make higher education more accessible and affordable for youth
Lobby business to create more employment opportunities for young people.
Promote co-operatives as a vehicle for Black Economic Empowerment
Lobby all spheres of government for preferential Procurement opportunities for young people
Lobby for more skills development at high school level
Conduct research on industry skills needs especially scarce skills
Promote opportunities in agri-business amongst youth
Lobby for accelerated implementation of Recognition of Prior Learning system
Instill in youth the value of education in changing conditions in society and not only in self enrichment.
Drive implementation of National Youth Service programmes
Ensure implementation of Expanded Public work programme
Drivers of government programmes to use conferences of this nature to explain to youth

Lobby for business to invest resources in local youth development